



Beaks and Bills



Carolina Wrens use their beak to delicately pick up small insects

Have you ever noticed that not all birds have the same type of beak? Their beaks and bills are specialized to help them eat their primary food source. Birds that eat seeds often have thick beaks for crushing, while raptors have sharp curved beaks for tearing apart their prey. While you are out and about, keep your eyes open for birds. You might just be able to infer what they eat by the structure of their bill.

Wings Across South Carolina 2016 Bioblitz



Bald Eagles and other raptors use their beaks to rip apart their prey.



Woodpeckers use their beaks to break away bark in their quest for food, while sandpipers use their beaks to extract invertebrates.



Northern Cardinals use their beak to crush seeds.